Scheme, Government would take into account the balance of unutilized funds under CRF of the previous year; and

(b) in case the State has incurred excess expenditure under CRF in the absence of adequate assistance under NCCF, during that year whether such excess expenditure would be adjusted against the accrued of CRF in subsequent year, if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No Sir, as there is no such provision in the Scheme.

Drought in Rajasthan

2871. SHRI AIMADUDDIN AHMED KHAN (DURRU): Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government considers the present drought situation in Rajasthan to be worse than that in 1987-88, if not, the reasons therefor;

(b) what financial assistance was provided by the Union Government to Rajasthan during 1987-88 for drought relief;

(c) what would be the estimated expenditure on similar relief activities at the current prices for the current drought; and;

(d) what assistance Government propose to provide to Rajasthan under NCCF?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) to (d) During the current year, many parts of Rajasthan are under a severe drought, as was the case in 1987-88. A total assistance of Rs. 668.168 crore was extended to Rajasthan for drought relief between 1st April, 1987 to 31st July, 1988. It is not possible to indicate at this stage the likely expenditure on relief activities relating to current drought. The High Level Committee for sanctioning assistance from NCCF has assessed the requirement of the State till the middle of January, 2003 at Rs. 207.68 crore, which is within the available balance in the CRF of the State *viz.* 216.92 crore.